

P. R. O.
Colonial En-
try Book
No. 53

Co^{rt}s shall take Care of Orphans Estates but hath assertheyned noe rule by w^{ch} the Co^{rt}s shall proceed in the preservacō of the said Estates Bee it Enacted by the R^t Honno^{ble} the Lords Proprietary by & wth the Consent of the vpp^r & low^r howse of this p^rsent gen^{all} assembly That all Wills & Testam^{ts} be firm & inviolable vnlesse the Execto^{rs} or Overseers doe refuse to execute the Trust Reposed in them by the Testato^{rs} in w^{ch} case the Co^{rt} may appoynte others to Act according to the will But if the said Will be soe made th^t noe p^{son} will vnd^rtake the managing of the Estate or Educacō of the Orphans according to the Tenor of itt Then th^t the Estate by the Appoyntm^t of the Co^{rt} shalbee managed according to these following Rules w^{ch} shalbe Rules alsoe for Orde^ring the Estate of p^{sons} intestate Vizt.

ffirst th^t noe Acco^t be Allowed for Dyett Clothes Physicke or else ag^t any Orphans Estates but they be Educated & Provided for by the Interest of the Estate & Encrease of their Stocke accordinge to the p^{por}cō of their Estates, if itt will beare itt But if the Estate be soe meane & in Considerable th^t itt will not extend to a Free Educacō That itt is Enacted th^t such Orphans shalbe bound Apprentices to some Handicraft Trade or other p^{son} att the discretion of the Co^{rt} vntill one & Twenty yeares of Age Except some Kinsman or Relacō will mayntaine them for the Interest of the sole Estate they haue without Dimunicō of the Principall w^{ch} whether great or small shall allwayes be Delivered to the Orphans att the yeares Appoynted by Lawe.

That all Cattle Horses & Sheepe be returned in kind by the Guardians according to Age & numb^r when as here s^d them. And because severall had before the makeing of this Act, Estates of Orphans in their hands, w^{ch} they kept for the male encrease And giving the yearly Acco^t of the Augmentacō or Dimunicō of the Orphans Stocks w^{ch} by Carelessness or Wickednes of the Guardians was vsually Consumed before they came to Age & dispute thereupon arise in the Seūall Co^{rt}s how such p^{sons} should be p^{ceeded} wth, & Acco^{ts} of Orphans Estates how to be given them Jtt is hereby declared th^t all p^{sons} possess'd of Orphans stocks before the makeing of this Act shall be bound to Deliv^r to the Orphan when he comes to Age such & soe many of any kind as he is possessed of when he gives his Acco^t to the next Orphans Co^{rt} Succeeding the Publicacō hereof.

That all plate & money be p^rserved & delivered in kind according to the weight & Quantity th^t other howsehold Stuffe & Lumb^r be apprayed in money & the vallue thereof payd by the Guardian to the Orphan when he comes to Age in the Country Commodities att the price his Lo^{pps} Recev^r Gen^{all} receives them for his Lo^{pps} Rents.